

**From:** Charles B Cranston  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 1:00pm  
**Subject:** Please break up Microsoft

It is abundantly clear that the only way to avoid a paralyzing monopoly in computer software (and eventually hardware) is to immediately break Microsoft up into multiple corporations.

American business seems to already be falling into a posture where an attached Microsoft Word document is the only way to email formatted documents -- and this puts those of us who do not want to further Microsoft by legally acquiring Word at a real disadvantage. The average pointy-headed supervisor thinks "standardization on Microsoft" is a good thing, but this will inevitably lead to software monopoly.

Monoculture is dumb. It's dumb for people (National Socialism in 30's Germany), it's dumb for agriculture (what happens when the only kind of corn grown becomes particularly susceptible to a new blight?), and it's dumb for software.

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